

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 IO-14 SAM-01 DRC-01 /154 W

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R 171440Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2545

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 0362

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MZ

SUBJECT: EX-PRISONERS MEETING WITH FRELIMO LEADERS

REF: A) LOURENCO MARQUES 344; B) LOURENCO MARQUES 335

1. DIARIO OF MAY 17 REPORTS SIX FORMER POLITICAL PRISONERS LEFT MAY 16 FOR DAR ES SALAAM TO CONTACT LEADERS OF FRELIMO CONCERNING PORTUGUESE PEACE OFFERS.

2. GROUP LED BY POET JOSE CRAVEIRINHA AND INCLUDES POET RUI NOGAR, PAINTER MALANGATANA VALENTE, JOSEFATE MACHEL (BROTHER OF FRELIMO PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL), MATIAS BOA, AND ROBERIO DANIEL.

3. GROUP LEFT LOURENCO MARQUES AT 0900 HOURS MAY 16 AND ARRIVED DAR ES SALAAM SAME EVENING, VIA MADAGASCAR. JOACHIM CHISSANO REPORTEDLY MET THEM AT DAR AIRPORT.

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RM PURPOSE OF VISIT IS TO TRY TO CONVINCE FRELIMO LEADERSHIP OF SINCERITY OF JUNTA'S PROPOSAL THAT LIBERATION MOVEMENTS GIVE UP HOSTILITIES AND SET THEMSELVES UP ON MOZAMBIQUE TERRITORY AS REGULAR POLITICAL PARTIES.

5. APPARENTLY DOMINGOS AROUCA, WHO WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO GO TO DAR WITH EX-PRISONERS, BROKE OFF FROM GROUP TO ATTEMPT CONTACT WITH FRELIMO THROUGH PRESIDENT BANDA OF MALAWI, PRESUMABLY IN COLLABORATION WITH JORGE JARDIM. ACCORDING TO EX-PRISONER GROUP, RUMOR REPORTED REF A THAT AROUCA WOULD BE JOINED IN MALAWI BY CRAVEIRINHA AND ONE OTHER, WAS REPORTEDLY SPREAD BY MAXIMO DIAS, BUMO PRESIDENT IN ORDER TO SABOTAGE WHOLE EFFORT. WHETHER TRUE OR NOT, THIS CAUSED SOME CONFUSION AMONG EX-PRISONER GROUP, WHICH THEREUPON DECIDED TO SEND ITS REPRESENTATIVES IMMEDIATELY TO DAR WITHOUT WAITING FOR ANY INDICATION AS TO WHETHER THEY WOULD BE RECEIVED.

6. NOT CLEAR WHERE THIS LEAVES AROUCA/JARDIM APPROACH. PERHAPS EFFORT TO CONTACT FRELIMO THROUGH BANDA'S GOOD OFFICES WILL CONTINUE PARALLEL TO EX-PRISONER EFFORT IN DAR. HOWEVER, DISCLAIMER BY SPOKESMAN FOR GENERAL COSTA GOMES REPORTED IN LOCAL PRESS TWO DAYS AGO TO EFFECT THAT JARDIM WAS NOT SPEAKING ON JUNTA'S BEHALF IN MAKING PUBLIC PLEA TO BEIRA CITIZENS (REF B), WOULD IMPLY THAT JARDIM DOES NOT ENJOY SPECIAL FAVOR THESE DAYS, AND MAY BE INTENDED TO DOWNGRADE HIS EFFORTS AND ALLAY FEARS OF HIS DETRACTORS THAT HE WILL IN SOME WAY TAKE CHARGE OF EVENTS IN MOZAMBIQUE. ALSO, IT IS KNOWN THAT THE NEW MINISTER FOR INTERTERRITORIAL COORDINATION, DE ALMEIDA SANTOS, HAS THE INSTINCTIVE DISTRUST OF JARDIM THAT IS ALMOST REFLEX ACTION ON THE PART OF FORMER OPPOSITIONIST LIBERALS.

VAN OSS

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